

Our presentation will give a detailed overview of the Baltimore Traffic Study (BTS) which began from September 2000.

The BTS was designed to help us better understand the impact of motor vehicle emissions on urban residential communities. The study has three components:

1) a fixed site monitoring station located in midtown on N. Calvert St. that was set up specifically for this study. Calvert is a north bound commuter street which carries 15,000 vehicles per day in the midtown area. The station continuously monitored for a suite of gaseous pollutants, particles, and weather conditions. In addition traffic counts were monitored on both St. Paul and Calvert Sts. The station ran for 3 years Sept 2000 - Sept 2003;

2) a biomarker study which took advantage of the fixed site to explore the relationship between exposure to vehicle exhaust and internal markers of those exposures and;

3) a personal exposure study of residents living in the immediate vicinity of the fixed site.

Participants were recruited from 3 census zones from smoking and non-smoking homes and were asked to carry a set of monitors that mirror those at the fixed site.